

## Special Notice.

Subscribers receiving their papers in a *pink wrapper* are informed that their subscriptions *expire* with this number. Unless you have renewed, *renew them promptly*, and be sure to state that it is a renewal—not a new name altogether—for the paper is admitted on all hands to be more attractive and useful than ever before. Let each soldier, too, act as “a committee of one,” to get up a club. Remember the terms—five copies for \$2, and ten copies, with one for the getter up of the club, for \$5. And then there is our beautiful clock—see what a soldier, Mr. Mandeville, says about it in another column—a club for it and the paper insures ten clocks and ten papers, with an extra clock and paper to the getter up of the club, for the sum of \$17.50. We intend to war continuously onward on behalf of the Equalization Bounty bill, the reformation of the Pension Office, and other measures in which all soldiers are interested. Forward, then, soldiers, singly and by clubs, your subscriptions. By helping this paper you are helping yourselves. Remit by money orders, which can be obtained at almost every U. S. post-office, by registered letter, by draft on New York, or by express. If you have any doubts as to your having renewed, drop us a postal card about the matter.

## Bear in Mind

That the receipt of a copy of THE TRIBUNE is a notification to you that your money for either the club you have formed or for your individual subscription is received. Names are entered on our subscription books when pay is received, and papers are duly forwarded as soon as our edition is issued. Where you fail to get your paper, send us postal card to that effect and we will forward the missing paper, but wait always till the last of the month. Sometimes we deem it advisable to issue our sheet quite late in the month, hoping to impart some very special news.

## Deputy Pension Commissioner.

The legislative appropriation bill revives the office of Deputy Commissioner of Pensions, and, having signed the bill, the President, on the 21st of June, sent to the Senate the nomination of Major O. P. G. Clark, until recently the chief clerk of the Pension Office, for the position. Aside from his eminent ability and acquirements, Major Clark is personally one of the most popular men connected with the pension service. His appointment will doubtless be speedily confirmed.

Since the above was written, we learn that Major Clark has been unanimously confirmed by the Senate and that he now holds his commission.

## Our Paper and Clock.

The soldiers will surely make us more proud than poor mortals should be, if they continue writing such letters as our soldier friend Mr. Mandeville's, nevertheless we will publish it:

CANTON, BRADFORD CO., PA., June 24, 1879.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE,

DEAR SIR: The June number has come to hand and is chuck full of good things. Every number seems better if possible, than the preceding one, although all are good; in fact, it is the best paper of its kind I ever saw. No soldier or soldier's widow can afford to be without it. How many soldiers there are in this country, who are suffering from want and service, are entitled to a pension and do not know it. They don't know anything about our pension laws. I trust the day is not far distant, when they will take the soldiers' organ, and then they will know what their rights are and how to obtain them. Those celebrated Tribune clocks are running in my office, since about the first of March last, and better time keepers I never saw. I also received a number of them for subscribers. I opened all of them and examined them carefully, and found that they contained excellent works. The trade are selling a clock of the same style for from \$2.50 to \$3, the works appear to be made of lighter stock. THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE clocks are durable as well as beautiful. I can say without the least fear of contradiction, that THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE has done more for us soldiers, than all the other papers in the United States put together.

Very respectfully yours,

WOSTER MANDEVILLE.

“Have you enjoyed our strawberry festival, boys?” “Oh yes, sir!” “Then,” asked the teacher, seeking to append moral, “if you had slipped into my garden and picked those strawberries without my leave, would they have tasted as good as now?” Every little boy in that stained and sticky company shrieked “no, sir!” “Why not?” cause, said little Thomas, with the cheerfulness of conscious virtue, “then we shouldn't have had sugar and cream with ‘em”

## To Pensioners and Claimants for Pension.

We are in receipt of a vast number of communications from pensioners and claimants for pensions, complaining of the protracted delay on the part of the Pension Office in the adjustment of their claims for original pension and the arrears.

That there does appear to be an unreasonable and unnecessary delay in this respect cannot be denied, but claimants should endeavor to “possess their souls in patience,” as relief will come in the end. Like the “mills of the gods,” the Pension Office “grinds slowly but surely” and the benefits arising from the arrears law afford some compensation for having to wait.

The fact that large amounts are drawn under the operations of the arrears law—sums which in many instances will place the recipients in comfortable circumstances, is evidenced by the following extracts from letters which we are permitted to publish through the kindness of George E. Lemon.

UNADILLA, N. Y., July 1, 1879.

GEO. E. LEMON, Esq.:

I received from the Pension Agent \$639, as first payment. I am well satisfied with your management of my case before the Department.

WILLIAM MARTIN.

SPRINGPORT, MICH., July 5, 1879.

MR. LEMON:

Your services as attorney in my pension claim have afforded me entire satisfaction. I received \$633.53 pension money on my first payment.

Accept my thanks.

WM. H. LINES.

VANZANT'S STORE, GA., July 1, 1879.

GEO. E. LEMON:

I have received my first pension money which amounts to \$777. The faithful manner in which you prosecuted my claim has given me entire satisfaction, and should I have any business in future in your city, will certainly entrust it to your hands.

JOS. C. LONG.

LITCHFIELD, KY., July 2, 1879.

GEO. E. LEMON:

I have received my first payment of pension, amounting to \$309.75 and I am perfectly satisfied with your services in prosecuting my claim.

JNO. W. BURKHEAD.

MASSILON, O., July 1, 1879.

CAPTAIN LEMON:

I have received \$320 pension money on my first payment, and desire to return my thanks for the very able manner in which you prosecuted my claim. I shall always recommend you.

JAS. QUIGLEY.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., July 1, 1879.

MR. LEMON:

I received \$306.47 on my first payment of pension. I am perfectly satisfied with your services as my attorney and very thankful for your kind attention to me.

A. S. CONNER.

OREGON, MD., July 1, 1879.

G. E. LEMON:

I desire to thank you for the skillful manner in which you attended to my pension claim and the promptitude you displayed. I shall do all in my power for you in your line of business. I received \$652.41 pension money on my first payment.

CHAS. E. BROWN.

ELIZABETH, N. J., July 2, 1879.

GEO. E. LEMON:

I received \$299.93 of pension money as a first payment. Your services in connection with the prosecution of my claim have been entirely satisfactory.

JOS. DICKERT.

KAHOKA, MO., July 1, 1879.

MR. GEO. E. LEMON:

I received as my first payment \$658.93. I am well pleased with all you have done for me and offer you my sincere thanks.

F. S. GILHOUSER.

ALEXANDER, N. Y., July 1, 1879.

MR. GEORGE E. LEMON:

I was paid \$643.93 on my first payment of pension. Your efforts in my behalf have been successful and perfectly satisfactory. I am aware that it has been through your untiring persistence that I now enjoy the benefits of a pension. I shall ever feel grateful to you, and will recommend you to all persons in this vicinity.

A. B. HARRINGTON.

STROUDSBURG, PENN., June 30, 1879.

MR. GEO. E. LEMON:

I have received \$625 as first payment of pension. Your services, as my attorney have given me entire satisfaction.

T. A. DOWNS.

CANASTOTA, N. Y., July 2, 1879.

CAPT. GEO. E. LEMON:

I received \$477.60 the first payment. I regard you as a first class attorney and with your charge I am perfectly satisfied.

ABNER SNELL.

COFFERSBURG, MO., July 1, 1879.

CAPT. GEO. E. LEMON:

I received \$1,329 for my pension claim in March last, and for your untiring zeal in working to secure it, accept the most hearty thanks of an old soldier.

R. W. P. MOONEY.

## Correspondents' Column.

H. D. N., CAMDEN, MAINE.—Q. My claim for pension has been rejected on the ground that the record shows my disability to have existed at the time of my enlistment. I was in sound bodily health when I enlisted. Is the decision of the Commissioner of Pensions final? A. The Pension Office will not entertain any evidence offered in rebuttal of the record and your only recourse is to a special act of Congress.

Q. My mother's claim for pension has been rejected on the ground that my brother did not contract the disability which caused his death while in the line of duty, he having left the hospital without leave and partaken freely of Hostetter's Bitters which resulted in his death. Was her claim properly rejected? A. Yes. The case is plain. The fatal disease was not contracted while in the line of duty as required by the Pension laws nor was it due to his military service.

F. M. B., ONOTA, N. H.—A soldier who, after serving nine months, received an honorable discharge and then re-enlisted for three years in another organization (enlistments into the Veteran Reserve Corps excepted) as a volunteer, between January 1, 1863, and April 1, 1864, is, if not mustered as a veteran volunteer, entitled to an “office-muster” as such. Such muster will entitle the soldier to the difference between veteran and recruit bounty, \$102 or \$202, according to date of enlistment.

MRS. C. O. E., DAYTON, O.—If you have drawn a pension from the date of your husband's death in the Army up to the date of your re-marriage, and your children drew the pension until they severally attained the age of 16 years, there is no pension due you under the law granting arrears of pension.

“PRISONER,” MEDIA, PA.—At the close of the late war I was a paroled prisoner. Am I not entitled to the three months' extra pay allowed by law to that class? A. The extra pay referred to was not provided by law, but was paid in accordance with an order from the Secretary of War. Those who did not receive said extra pay before leaving parole camp, cannot recover it now.

J. Q. M., LEADVILLE, COLO.—Q. If I should fail to file my application for a pension in the Pension Office before July 1, 1880, from what date would I draw pension?—A. From date of filing your claim only. You are advised to file your application at once, as Congress may at any moment lessen the period within which you avail yourself of the benefits of the Arrears of Pension law. Pension claimants who delay filing their applications stand in their own light and on perilous ground.

MRS. E. J. S., OLNEY, ILL.—You are not entitled to a pension as the mother of a deceased soldier, because he left a widow surviving him. Because the widow has remarried does not give validity to your claim.

P. P. L., NEOSHO, MO.—The time for paying for horses lost in service, expired January 1, 1876, but a bill is now before Congress to extend the time for adjusting and paying such claims.

A. M., EXIRA, IOWA.—Q. I was drafted for one year; am I entitled to any United States bounty? A. No; none has been provided for men drafted for one year or for their substitutes.

J. W. W., OAKLAND X ROADS, PA.—Would like to learn the present Post Office address of Lieutenant G. L. Brown, late of Co. I, 101st Pa. Vols; also of Captain Fred. W. Utter, and Lieutenants Harry Wilson and Ben Austin, late of Co. E, 18th Pa. Cavalry.

O. B. C., MONTICELLO, N. Y.—Q. I filed an application for pension two years since, which is still pending. Must I file another application in order to obtain the benefits of the arrears of pension law?—A. No; arrears of pension will be settled on the pending application.

GEO. W. R., JACKSON, MICH.—Q. Why was my arrears of pension computed at \$3 a month, while my pension certificate calls for \$12 a month?—A. The following extract from the act making appropriations for the payment of arrears of pensions “all answer your inquiry: ‘That the rate at which the arrears of invalid pensions shall be allowed and computed in the cases which have been or shall hereafter be allowed, shall be graded according to the degree of the pensioner's disability from time to time, and the provisions of the pension laws in force over the period for which the arrears shall be computed.’ The Commissioner of Pensions fixes the rating and there is no appeal from his decision.”

JNO. T., DALLAS.—Those who enlisted subsequent to July 18, 1864, are not entitled to the second installment of bounty unless they served one-half of the term for which enlisted, unless discharged by reason of a wound or injury as contradistinguished from a disease.

J. A. W., MOLINO, FLA.—The charge of desertion, unless erroneously made and contrary to fact, cannot be removed and is an effectual bar to the payment of any bounty. Such a charge is not, however, a bar to pension.

DR. J. S. A., SELMA, ALA.—Pensioners of the War of 1812 can derive no benefits from the act of January 15, 1879, granting arrears of pensions.

ANGIE, DULUTH, MINN.—Q. Please inform me whether my husband is entitled to another bounty of \$100. He received \$100 when discharged. How shall he proceed to collect his arrears of pension?—A. As a history of your husband's service is necessary to determine his title to further bounty, your first question cannot be answered. He should send his discharge to a reliable attorney and have the matter decided. Blank applications for arrears of pensions are furnished by “THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE” Company gratuitously to all regular subscribers, and the Company attends to filing the application in the Pension Office without charge.

J. A. C., MILTON, FLA.—Q. Am I entitled to any bounty under the Equalization Bounty Bill which has recently become a law?—A. The Equalization Bounty Bill has not become a law. It has simply been introduced and referred to committee. We are at a loss to know where these reports of the passage of said bill originate, or how the impression that it has become a law obtains. The announcement of the enactment of said bill into a law, and all other measures of interest to soldiers and sailors and their heirs, will appear promptly in THE TRIBUNE.

W. M., ATT'Y, CANTON, PA.—Pension to minor children ceases by law when they severally attain the age of sixteen years. They are allowed until they are twenty-one to apply through a guardian, and draw pension up to the time they reached the age of sixteen. Failing to apply before they are twenty-one, they forfeit all title. Only the children of a soldier who were under sixteen years of age at the date of his death, are entitled to a pension.

MARTIN S., MOBILE, ALA.—Q. At what rate will arrears of pensions be computed in case of a soldier whose pension has been increased? Will he be allowed arrears at his present rating?—A. No; the allowance will be made only at the original rating; so that if pension was first granted at \$6 a month, and afterwards increased to \$18 a month or more, the back pension cannot be allowed in excess of \$6 a month, and may be less, as the Commissioner of Pensions can arbitrarily fix the rating.

O. K. L., MASON, MICH.—You are not entitled to \$24 a month pension, unless wholly incapacitated for the performance of any manual labor. The phrase “any manual labor,” which occurs in the law, is construed to include the lighter kinds of labor requiring education and skill; hence, if you are physically (mentally is not meant) able to perform these lighter kinds of labor, your pension would not be increased to \$24 a month.

E. A. M., SAVANNAH, GA.—An invalid pensioner, who is in receipt of a pension on one disability, and who applies for increase on a new disability, which was contracted in the service and in line of duty, but not mentioned in the original application, is entitled, under the Arrears of Pension law, to receive pension on the new disability from date of discharge, provided that, at time of discharge, the new disability had developed to a pensionable degree.

JOS. B., MACKSBURG, IOWA.—Having already received the 25 cents a day for the period held as a prisoner of war, you of course, are not entitled to any further commutation of rations. No law granting additional bounty has been enacted since July 28, 1866. If you have received \$100 bounty under said act, no more is due.

JAS. B. A., BON HOMME, DAK.—Soldiers are entitled to twenty-five cents a day for the period they were held prisoners of war, and a like allowance for the period properly absent on furlough, provided they put their furloughs in evidence.

JNO. D., BUFFALO, KY.—Q. Please inform me how the payments of arrears of pensions will be made?—A. It is understood that claims for this allowance are adjusted with a view to disbursing the appropriation as equally as possible among the various pension agencies, so that about the same amount of money may be put in circulation in each section of the country.

WM. H. P., ALEXANDRIA, VA.—The Commissioner of Pensions issued a circular immediately after the passage of the Arrears of Pension law, stating that applications under said law would not be acknowledged, nor any inquiry concerning them answered. When a claim for arrears of pension is adjusted, the Commissioner notifies the pensioner by letter and at the same time instructs the U. S. Pension Agent, in whose district the pensioner resides, to pay the amount due.

E. B. F., PUERTO, COLO.—Q. I enlisted March, 1864, and was discharged in 1866. Am I entitled to the additional bounty provided by act of July 28, 1866?—A. No; you enlisted for \$300 bounty, and the act cited provides additional or extra bounty to those only who have received or are entitled to receive \$100 and no more.